



Biography for MICHAEL C. CAMUÑEZ

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Market Access and Compliance

International Trade Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

Michael C. Camuñez was nominated by President Barack Obama and, on September 16, 2010, unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Market Access and Compliance (MAC) within the International Trade Administration (ITA). As Assistant Secretary, Mr. Camuñez plays a critical role in supporting the President's economic recovery agenda by helping to coordinate the Commerce Department's efforts to create American jobs through the National Export Initiative. Under Mr. Camuñez's leadership,

MAC will help lead the effort to open new markets for U.S. goods and services, identify and eliminate significant market access challenges, particularly non-tariff barriers, and help to monitor and enforce U.S. trade agreements and commitments to ensure that American companies, and the workers they employ, can compete on a level playing field.

Information on Camuñez visit to Kenya

Kenya's Vision 2030 identifies the private sector as key towards developing much needed flagship infrastructure projects; however, the GoK estimates a funding gap of approximately USD \$44 billion is required to address Kenya's infrastructure requirements over the next five to eight years. To help overcome this financing gap, the government is focused on creating an attractive public-private partnership (PPP) framework via a recently approved PPP Bill 2011 draft that is to be tabled in Parliament in March 2012. This new PPP legislation is expected to provide government bodies with the legal capacity to enter PPP contracts, create certainty and investor confidence, reduce negative impacts on risk profiles of PPP projects and provide a clear approval process for PPPs among others.

To address this need and to better position U.S. companies to bid on PPP projects in partnership with local firms, the Commercial Section of the U.S. Embassy in Kenya (CS Kenya) organized a PPP structured finance seminar on May 17 in partnership with the American Chamber of Commerce Kenya, Overseas Private Investment Corporation, and U.S. Trade and Development Agency. The Embassy also organized a roundtable in partnership with Commerce/ITA for U.S. investors in Kenya and East Africa to identify roadblocks to attracting more U.S. trade and investment with the region. These issues will be raised with Kenya and other East African Community partner governments later this year.